

Marv was a quiet man, respectful of others, slow to anger and quick to forgive. He loved reading, flying, computer programming, and bicycling. His proudest accomplishments were of course his children. His son George followed through on the love of country Marv tried to instill by serving in the military and his daughters both followed his love of computers.

That was in fact Marv's first love. After graduating from St. Francis High School in Wheaton, IL, in 1961, he attended a technical school specializing in computer programming. Having his daughters become adept computer specialists was a definite source of fatherly pride. Marv came back to the computer field toward the end of his working career after spending many years in sales.

As a young man Marv was drafted into the Army in 1965 during the first big draft of the Vietnam war. He felt privileged to serve his country as his father and his grandfather had done before him, and he thought it was his patriotic duty. He excelled in turbine generator school at Fort Belvoir, VA, graduating first in his class. He never got to use his mechanics training, though, because he was never sent to Vietnam. Instead he served out the rest of his time in Fort Campbell, KY as a company clerk, supply officer, and finished his last 9 months of service in his favorite duty, as a military policeman.

Marv spent the rest of his life focused on his wife, children, and community. For 10 years he and Kathy were team leaders for World Wide Marriage Encounter weekends for the Catholic church. They were privileged to coordinate more than 60 weekends to help couples make their good marriages into great committed relationships. Marv and Kathy facilitated marriage preparation classes for their church. Marv was also instrumental in forming the Rite of Christian Initiative for Adults at St. Mary's Parish in Greeley. He demonstrated his love of teaching and for young people as a confirmation teacher for 9 years. He was also a board member of Habitat for Humanity and Citizens for Responsible Government.

Marv understood the meaning of the grassroots political process and exemplified it daily. It is people like Marv who contribute to the greatness of America, the behind-the-scenes hard work essential to our communities and the makeup of the character of this great Nation. I am privileged to have known him and experience the results of his efforts. They will not go unappreciated. His memory and the influence he had on us and our Nation will far outlive his life. Each time we celebrate our independence and the freedoms we too often take for granted, we need to remember the contributions of people like Marv.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD a short poem that Marv considered his statement of his life's philosophy and indeed it was the best description of his life as a devoted father, a husband, and American.

DESIDERATA

(By Max Ehrmann)

Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even the dull and ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations of the spirit.

If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter; for there will always be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time.

Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass.

Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.

Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness.

Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul.

With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

ONGOING TOBACCO INDUSTRY NEGOTIATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. WAXMAN] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, the negotiations that are going on at the present time with the tobacco industry, they are requesting that they be excused from punitive damages.

I want to point out to my colleagues that the tobacco industry for 4 decades has misled and deceived the American people about their product. They have lied to the Congress, and they have kept documents secret. Last week we revealed documents that had not been public before from the Liggett Tobacco Co. where they had an attorney-client privilege to try to keep these documents from the public where they knew about a safer cigarette but did not want to make a safer cigarette because their lawyers said that would mean that the cigarette they were already making was unsafe and they would be presumably admitting that.

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They refused to turn over to medical people information about the harm from cigarettes because they were fearful of the liability that might attach to them.

Now those documents are simply the tip of the iceberg. There are over 150,000 documents that have claimed to be attorney client privilege. The attorney client privilege will not shield documents if there is fraud or criminal conduct involved, and I believe that if these documents become public, they may well lead to criminal charges being brought.

One of the reasons the tobacco industry is so anxious for a settlement is that one of the terms of their settlement is that these documents would be kept secret forever.

Now if these documents became public, we would know whether there ought to be punitive damages in some of these lawsuits. How can we agree in any negotiation to excuse the tobacco industry from punitive damages without knowing all the facts?

So I would hope that those people that are sitting down and discussing what might be a recommendation to the Congress for settlement of a lot of these issues regarding tobacco will not recommend to us to excuse and forgive the tobacco companies for any actions they may have undertaken that would amount to punitive damages before we know fully what actions they have been engaged in. What we do know is that for four decades they have acted in a way that we would never accept from any other business or corporation in this country. They have manufactured a product and sold it knowing it is harmful and claiming the contrary to be true. They have sold a product that is addictive, and they knew that to be the case, and they denied it. They were targeting our kids, and then they denied it. What are punitive damages all about except to punish people who have acted wrongly? And if the tobacco industry has not acted wrongly in these last four decades, what industry could possibly be accused of acting more wrongly?

I hope they do not come back and recommend to us that we forgive the tobacco industry for their wrongdoing and not hold them accountable if in fact punitive damages are warranted.

GIVE TAX RELIEF TO THE PEOPLE PAYING THE TAXES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. CUNNINGHAM] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, we have legislation coming before this body that would give tax relief back to the American people.

My father took home 85 percent of his paycheck. My daughters are scheduled to take home 10 percent of their